

AMENDMENT NO. 1167

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendments so that I may call up my amendment No. 1167.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Colorado [Mr. BENNET], for himself, and Mr. CASEY, proposes an amendment numbered 1167.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require the exclusion of combat pay from income for purposes of determining eligibility for child nutrition programs and the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children)

On page 4, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

**SEC. 103. MILITARY FAMILY NUTRITION PROTECTION.**

(a) CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS.—Section 9(b) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(14) COMBAT PAY.—

“(A) DEFINITION OF COMBAT PAY.—In this paragraph, the term ‘combat pay’ means any additional payment under chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, or otherwise designated by the Secretary to be appropriate for exclusion under this paragraph, that is received by or from a member of the United States Armed Forces deployed to a designated combat zone, if the additional pay—

“(i) is the result of deployment to or service in a combat zone; and

“(ii) was not received immediately prior to serving in a combat zone.

“(B) EXCLUSION.—Combat pay shall not be considered to be income for the purpose of determining the eligibility for free or reduced price meals of a child who is a member of the household of a member of the United States Armed Forces.”.

(b) SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN.—Section 17(d)(2) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(2)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) COMBAT PAY.—For the purpose of determining income eligibility under this section, a State agency shall exclude from income any additional payment under chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, or otherwise designated by the Secretary to be appropriate for exclusion under this subparagraph, that is received by or from a member of the United States Armed Forces deployed to a designated combat zone, if the additional pay—

“(i) is the result of deployment to or service in a combat zone; and

“(ii) was not received immediately prior to serving in a combat zone.”.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, my amendment ensures that active-duty soldiers do not lose family benefits, nutrition benefits that they have come to count on. It is wrong that a combat family would actually lose WIC benefits and child nutrition benefits just because the military loved one gets called up.

I thank my colleagues Senators JOHANNIS and CASEY for their support of this amendment. I appreciate the great

work of the chairman on this important piece of legislation.

I urge, at the appropriate time, adoption of the amendment.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1201 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1167

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 1201 to amendment No. 1167.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end of the amendment, add the following:

This section shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I certify that the information required by Senate rule XLIV, related to congressionally directed spending has been available on a publicly accessible congressional Web site in a searchable format at least 48 hours before a vote on the pending bill.

**MORNING BUSINESS**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent to proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**SCHOOL SAFETY PATROL LIFESAVING AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the actions of the five young Americans who are this year's School Safety Patrol Lifesaving Award recipients as chosen by the American Automobile Association.

The American Automobile Association, AAA, began the School Safety Patrol Program in 1920 as a way to promote traffic safety amongst school children. Since 1949, the AAA School Safety Patrol Program has awarded its highest honor, the Lifesaving Award, to those patrolers who have acted to save the life of another. This year five heroic School Safety Patrolers are receiving this award, and it is my great honor to recognize their courageous actions.

In nearby Alexandria, VA, Norman Wallace was at his bus patrol post help-

ing to safely direct fellow Hybla Valley Elementary School students exit the bus when he spotted a vehicle coming towards a 5-year-old girl who was crossing in front of the bus. Acting quickly, Norman pulled the young girl from harm's way. His courageous actions ensured that the girl went unharmed.

Lulu Beltran showed great foresight while performing her duty as an AAA school safety patroller at Dixie Downs Elementary School in St. George, UT. While a fellow student was crossing the street, Lulu noticed that an approaching vehicle was not slowing down. After assessing the situation, Lulu moved swiftly and pulled her fellow student out of harm's way.

Working with her patrol advisor at Minnehaha Elementary School in Vancouver, WA, Sierra Clark acted bravely to prevent a fifth-grade girl from being hit when a vehicle suddenly sped around a corner. As the vehicle approached the crossing, Sierra snapped into action and pushed the girl out of danger.

Hunter Turner was patrolling a busy intersection near his Strassburg School in Sauk Village, IL, when a student began to cross the street without checking for cars first. As a car turned the corner, Hunter pulled the student back onto the sidewalk. If not for Hunter's valiant action, the student would have been struck.

After only 2 weeks at his school safety patrol post at Waterville Primary School in Waterville, OH, Matthew Krause prevented a kindergartener from stepping off a sidewalk just as a truck passed. Matthew's awareness of his surroundings and attentiveness to his duties ensured that this 5-year-old remained unscathed.

The five patrolers whom I have spoken of exemplify values such as courage, alertness, and a commitment to safety, all of which the AAA School Safety Patrol Program has promoted over the years. Patrolers throughout our Nation serve an important role in ensuring that our young people safely navigate traffic hazards to and from school, and I thank them for their work.

**CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY**

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, today I rise on behalf of the people of Florida and all Americans, to recognize Cuban Independence Day. We stand in solidarity with the people of Cuba as they fight for democratic change and independence in their homeland, and struggle for a day when basic dignity and freedom of expression is possible without fear of persecution. Tyranny, dictatorships, and political repression have no place in this hemisphere. Now more than ever, the United States must continue to press the Cuban regime, beginning with freeing all political prisoners. We must never waiver in our support for the Cuban people, as they continue their